Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for promoting healing of damaged tissue after an open heart surgery, the method comprising:

providing a substantially planar healing membrane which is:

(a) substantially-smooth on at least one side;

(b) substantially uniform in composition;

(c) about 10 microns to about 300 microns in thickness;

(d) non-porous;

(e) constructed from a resorbable polymer base material consisting essentially of ~~a material selected from the group consisting~~ one or more of a poly-lactide polymer and a copolymer of two or more different lactides; and

(f) adapted to be resorbed into the mammalian body within a period of approximately 18 to 24 months from an initial implantation of the membrane into the mammalian body~~.~~; and

placing the healing membrane adjacent to an opening in pericardial tissue of a patient so that the pericardial tissue surrounding the opening can regenerate over the membrane.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the resorbable polymer base material comprises 70:30 poly (L-lactide-co-D,L-lactide).

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the resorbable polymer base material comprises poly-L-lactide.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the thickness of the membrane is about 100 microns.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the thickness of the membrane is about 200 microns.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the healing membrane is provided in a sterile packaging.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of placing the healing membrane in a patient is effective to attenuate formation of scar tissue.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of placing the healing membrane in a patient is effective to attenuate tissue adhesion.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising a step of attaching the healing membrane to the pericardial tissue.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the attaching step comprises heat bonding the membrane to the pericardial tissue.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the membrane comprises an anti-scar forming agent, including angiotensin antagonists.

12-20. Cancelled.

21. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 1, wherein the resorbable polymer base material comprises copolymers~~A method for promoting healing of damaged tissue after an open heart surgery, the method comprising:

providing a substantially planar healing membrane which is:

(a) substantially-smooth on at least one side;

(b) substantially uniform in composition;

(c) about 10 microns to about 300 microns in thickness;

(d) non-porous;

(e) constructed from a resorbable polymer base material consisting essentially of a poly-lactide polymer and a copolymer of one or more of polycaprolactone and trimethylene carbonate to thereby reduce a stiffness of the substantially planar healing membrane; and

(f) adapted to be resorbed into the mammalian body within a period of approximately 18 to 24 months from an initial implantation of the membrane into the mammalian body~~.~~; and

placing the healing membrane adjacent to an opening in pericardial tissue of a patient so that the pericardial tissue surrounding the opening can regenerate over the membrane.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the healing membrane is precontoured into a heart-shaped bag and is placed to surround the apex of a heart.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the healing membrane is precontoured into a tube and is ~~placed to~~ disposed around the conduit of a left-ventricular assist device (LVAD).

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the healing membrane is precontoured and is ~~placed to~~ disposed over a pump of a left-ventricular assist device (LVAD).